

## Quiz 2 Solutions

1. a) Consider the transformation  $f(z) = 5z + \frac{4}{z}$  acting on the punctured complex plane  $\mathbb{C} - \{0\}$ . Find all fixed points of this transformation.

\* A fixed point for a transformation  $f$  is a solution to the equation  $F(z) = z$ .

$$5z + \frac{4}{z} = z$$

$$4z + \frac{4}{z} = 0$$

$$4z^2 + 4 = 0$$

$$4(z^2 + 1) = 0$$

$$z^2 + 1 = 0$$

$$z^2 = -1$$

$$z = \pm i$$

this has 2 solutions

because  $i^2 = -1$   
and  $(-i)^2 = (-1)^2 \cdot i^2 = 1 \cdot -1 = -1$

- b) Prove that the transformation  $f$  preserves the real axis. (i.e., if  $R \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  denotes the real axis, prove that  $f(R) = R$ ).

The set  $R$  consists of all complex numbers such that  $x$  is a real number:

$$R = \{x + 0i \in \mathbb{C} : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

We cannot simply say,  $F(R) = 5R + \frac{4}{R}$ .  
This is not true!

We need to prove:

$$F(R) = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : \exists x \in R \text{ s.t. } z = F(x) \}$$

\* This is the range or Image (f).

Let  $x \in R$ , then  $F(x) = 5x + \frac{4}{x}$

\* Using an arbitrary real number  $x + 0i$

By closure of the real numbers,  $5x$  is real,  
 $\frac{4}{x}$  is real. Therefore, the sum  $5x + \frac{4}{x}$  is real.

Since  $F(R)$  is real,  $F$  preserves the real axis.  
 $F(R) \subseteq R$

c) Prove that the transformation  $F$  does not preserve the line  $y = x$ .

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \{ x + iy : x, y \in \mathbb{R}, x = y \} \\ &= \{ x + ix : x \in \mathbb{R}, x \neq 0 \} \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbb{R}^2$	$\longleftrightarrow$	$\mathbb{C}$
$(x, y)$		$x + yi$

To proof something is not true,  
we need to provide a counter-example.

If we choose  $x=y=1$  as an example,

$$\text{Then } z = x + yi = x + xi = 1 + i.$$

$$\boxed{z = 1 + i}$$

$$f(1+i) = 5(1+i) + \frac{4}{1+i} = \boxed{5+5i} + \boxed{\frac{4}{1+i}}$$

Here we see that  $5+5i$  is on the line  $y=x$ ; however, we have something else  $\left(\frac{4}{1+i}\right)$  being added to it.

check:

$$5+5i + \frac{4}{1+i} \cdot \frac{1-i}{1-i} \quad \text{--- Multiplying by the conjugate in order to have a real denominator.}$$

$$= 5+5i + \frac{4-4i}{(1+i)(1-i)}$$

$$= 5+5i + \frac{4-4i}{\boxed{1-i+i-i^2}} \quad \text{--- } 1 - \cancel{i} + \cancel{i} - (-1)$$

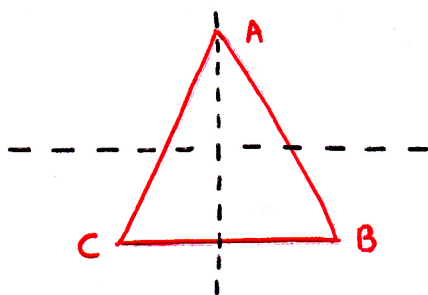
$$= 5+5i + \frac{4-4i}{2}$$

$$= 5+5i + 2-2i$$

$$= 7+3i$$

which is not on the line  $y=x$   
because  $3 \neq 7$ .

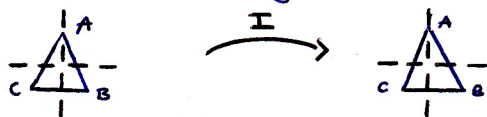
2. Consider an equilateral triangle  $T$  sitting in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ , centered at the origin. Write down all the transformations of the plane which preserve the triangle. (This means find all transformations of the plane  $f$  which satisfies  $f(T) = T$ ).



What transformations send  $T$  to itself?

The transformations of the plane need to be isometric. This means they must be translations, rotations, and/or reflections. However, if we translate the plane, the triangle won't be centered at the origin anymore.

- ① Identity: The transformation that will evidently preserve the triangle is the identity transformation.



- ② Reflection: There are two different reflections that could be made to preserve the triangle.  
 " over the  $y$ -axis, " over a bisector

- (i) Reflection over  
y-axis



As we can see, even though the plane was reflected over the y-axis, the triangle remained intact.

- (ii) Reflection over bisector  
(fixing point B)

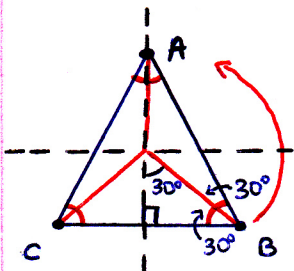


- (fixing point C)



- ③ Rotation: we can rotate the plane (about the origin) by multiples of  $120^\circ$ .

\* Why  $120^\circ$ ?



- Since the triangle is equilateral, we know each angle is equal to  $60^\circ$
- Point B is located at  $-30^\circ$  from the origin (or  $-\pi/6$ ).

Rotating counterclockwise, point B would be going to point A which is located at  $i$ .

$$R(z) = e^{i\theta} z \Rightarrow R(e^{-\pi/6}) = i$$

In order to find the angle of rotation from B to A, we use the fact that  $i = e^{i\pi/2}$ .

Therefore,  $e^{i\theta} \cdot e^{-\pi/6}$  must equal  $e^{i\pi/2}$



$$e^{i\theta} \cdot e^{-\pi/6} = i$$

$$e^{i\theta} \cdot e^{-\pi/6} = e^{i\pi/2}$$

$$e^{i\theta} = \frac{e^{i\pi/2}}{e^{-\pi/6}}$$

$$e^{i\theta} = e^{i(\pi/2 + \pi/6)}$$

$$e^{i\theta} = e^{i(2\pi/3)}$$

Therefore, the angle of rotation is  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$  or  $120^\circ$ .

We can also rotate by multiples of  $120^\circ$  like  $240^\circ$  or  $360^\circ$ . However, rotating by  $360^\circ$  would just be the identity transformation.